

Please Direct All Correspondence to Customer Number **20995**

**AMENDMENT / RESPONSE TRANSMITTAL**

Applicant : Albertson, et al.  
App. No : 09/585,134  
Filed : June 1, 2000  
For : CATEGORIZING FASTENERS AND  
CONSTRUCTION CONNECTORS  
USING VISUAL IDENTIFIERS  
Examiner : Mitchell, Katherine W.  
Art Unit : 3677

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence and all marked attachments are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on

February 24, 2005

(Date)

John P. Giezentanner, Reg. No. 39,993

**Mail Stop Amendment**

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

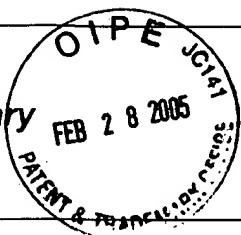
Sir:

Transmitted herewith for filing in the above-identified application are the following enclosures:

- (X) Amendment, Interview Summary and Response to Office Action in 6 pages with copy of Examiner's Interview Summary and Proposed Amendment attached.
- (X) The present application qualifies for small entity status under 37 C.F.R. § 1.27.
- (X) Return prepaid postcard.
- (X) Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

John P. Giezentanner  
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**Interview Summary**



Application No.

09/585,134

Applicant(s)

ALBERTSON ET AL.

Examiner

Katherine W. Mitchell

Art Unit

3677

All participants (applicant, applicant's representative, PTO personnel):

(1) Katherine W. Mitchell.

(3) Stephen Albertson.

(2) John Gallagher.

(4) John Giezentanner.

Date of Interview: 14 February 2005.

Type: a) ☐ Telephonic b) ☐ Video Conference

c) ☒ Personal [copy given to: 1) ☒ applicant 2) ☒ applicant's representative]

Exhibit shown or demonstration conducted: d) ☒ Yes e) ☐ No.

If Yes, brief description: Nails as disclosed vs prior art nails in shadow box.

Claim(s) discussed: independent.

Identification of prior art discussed: Dickson, Schwartz.

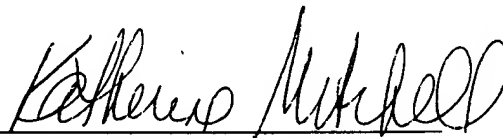
Agreement with respect to the claims f) ☒ was reached. g) ☐ was not reached. h) ☐ N/A.

Substance of Interview including description of the general nature of what was agreed to if an agreement was reached, or any other comments: See Continuation Sheet.

(A fuller description, if necessary, and a copy of the amendments which the examiner agreed would render the claims allowable, if available, must be attached. Also, where no copy of the amendments that would render the claims allowable is available, a summary thereof must be attached.)

THE FORMAL WRITTEN REPLY TO THE LAST OFFICE ACTION MUST INCLUDE THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. (See MPEP Section 713.04). If a reply to the last Office action has already been filed, APPLICANT IS GIVEN ONE MONTH FROM THIS INTERVIEW DATE, OR THE MAILING DATE OF THIS INTERVIEW SUMMARY FORM, WHICHEVER IS LATER, TO FILE A STATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. See Summary of Record of Interview requirements on reverse side or on attached sheet.

Examiner Note: You must sign this form unless it is an Attachment to a signed Office action.

  
Examiner's signature, if required

Continuation of Substance of Interview including description of the general nature of what was agreed to if an agreement was reached, or any other comments: Independent claims proposed amendment to described color coding representing 2 shaft properties. Examiner agrees that visibility of Dickson is lacking, and dual properties of shaft reads over Dickson. Examiner agreed to call applicant if research found new art or new consideration of old art seems to read on amended claims. Fastener and connector system similarly appears amended claim reads over applied art. Examiner noted that systems could include kit and kits are considered patentable.

**Pending Claim 14**

14. (Currently Amended) A fastener and connector system, comprising:

a connector which is required by regulation to be used with fasteners having specified physical properties;

a colored indicia on the connector, the colored indicia on the connector having been pre-selected to indicate the fasteners which regulation permits may be used with the connector;

a fastener having the specified physical properties; and

a colored indicia on the fastener, the colored indicia on the fastener having been pre-selected to define the specified physical properties.

**Proposed Amendment**

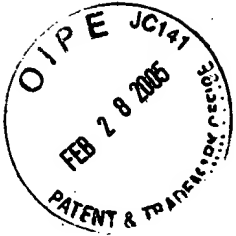
A fastener and connector system, comprising:

the fastener with a shaft having a first end and second end;

an exposed portion attached to the first end of the shaft; and

an identifying color on the exposed portion, the identifying color pre-selected to correspond to two specified physical properties of the shaft of the fastener, the identifying color on the exposed portion being capable of being recognized by a person of normal vision from a distance of at least 10 feet when the shaft has been inserted into a surface;

a connector which [is required by regulation] has been pre-selected to be used with the fastener [fasteners] having the two specified shaft physical properties;



a colored indicia on the connector matching the identifying color on the exposed portion of the fastener. [, the colored indicia on the connector having been pre-selected to indicate the fasteners which regulation permits may be used with the connector;

a fastener having the specified physical properties; and

a colored indicia on the fastener, the colored indicia on the fastener having been pre-selected to define the specified physical properties.]